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(When Filled In)

Date February 27, 1969

1. Agency State Dept., EA/TB (Thailand Burma desk)
 Component/location EA/TB Rm 5210 N.State
 Purpose or principal activity (military planning, foreign aid, briefing, research, etc.) Overseeing US relations with Thailand & Burma
 Your position (job title) Country Officer
 Your fields of responsibility (geographic area and/or specialty) Thailand, Burma - Political affairs & international relations
2. Is the NIS Production Status Report available for your use? ☒ Yes ☐ No
 Do you regularly use it? ☒ Yes ☐ No
Fairly often
3. Receipt of NIS units is:
☐ Regular and systematic ☐ Irregular, with some gaps ☐ Sporadic and uncertain

Document No. _____
 Review of this document by CIA has determined that

- ☒ CIA has no objection to declass
☐ It contains information of CIA interest that must remain classified at TS S C
 Authority: HR 70-2

☐ It contains nothing of CIA interest
 Date _____ Reviewer 059485

01 DEC 1980

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GROUP 1
 Excluded from automatic
 downgrading and declassification

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4. Below is a list of available NIS publications.

a) Indicate in column I the frequency of use by means of the following symbols:

A=Regularly

B=Occasionally

C=Rarely

D=Never

b) Indicate in column II your use, according to the following symbols (multiple uses may be indicated):

1=Planning and operations

2=Research, analysis, and production

3=Briefings

4=General background and orientation

5=Other (specify) _____

Col. I	Col. II		Col. I	Col. II	
<u>B</u>	<u>3 4</u>	General Survey (check sections used most frequently) — Chronology — Introduction — Geography — Transp. and Telecom. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sociological <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic — Scientific — Armed Forces — Area Brief — Summary Map	<u>D</u>	— — — —	Telecommunications
			<u>D</u>	— — — —	Population
			<u>B</u>	<u>3 4</u>	Characteristics of the People
			<u>B</u>	<u>3 4</u>	Religion, Education, and Public Information
			<u>D</u>	— — — —	Manpower
			<u>D</u>	— — — —	Health and Sanitation
<u>C</u>	<u>3</u>	Basic Intelligence Factbook	<u>B</u>	<u>3 4</u>	Intelligence and Security
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Coasts and Landing Beaches	<u>B</u>	<u>3 4</u>	Subversion and Insurgency
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Weather and Climate	<u>D</u>	— — — —	Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Meteorological Organization and Facilities	<u>D</u>	— — — —	Fuels
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Topography	<u>D</u>	— — — —	Electric Power
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Urban Areas	<u>D</u>	— — — —	Minerals and Metals
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Railroads	<u>D</u>	— — — —	Manufacturing and Construction
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Highways	<u>D</u>	— — — —	Trade and Finance
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Inland Waterways	<u>C</u>	<u>3</u>	Armed Forces
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Ports and Naval Facilities	<u>D</u>	— — — —	Marine Climate
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Merchant Marine	<u>C</u>	<u>4</u>	Oceanography
<u>D</u>	— — — —	Civil Air			

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5. In general, do you consider yourself:

- ☐ a. Regular user of NIS publications
- ☒ b. Infrequent user

6. If you checked 5,a, above, which of the following best describes NIS usefulness:
(If more than one applies, indicate rank by using 1 for highest.)

- ☐ Principal source of information
- ☐ Secondary source
- ☒ Supplies information in a conveniently assembled form not otherwise available
- ☐ Supplies corroborative information
- ☐ Other (specify) _____

7. If you checked 5,b, above, which of the following best describes your reasons for only infrequent use:
(If more than one applies, indicate rank by using 1 for highest.)

- ☐ Not readily available
- ☒ Not sufficiently current -- *but historical data are often very useful and not obtainable elsewhere very easily.*
- ☐ Too summarized and generalized
- ☐ Too detailed
- ☐ Only marginally related to my needs

Comment: Needs on country desk are often operational and very specific -- e.g. sometimes NIS Sect 59 has been only source where I could find certain biographies.

- ☐ Needs filled by other publications (specify) _____
- ☐ NIS of value only in conjunction with other publications (specify) _____
- ☐ Other (specify) _____

8. Has the NIS been consulted for crisis situations, crash projects, or emergency planning?

- ☒ Yes ☐ No Why? _____

If you checked "Yes" above, how useful was it under these circumstances?

- ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Adequate ☐ Marginal

Sometimes -- when it happened to provide the exact info needed

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9. With reference to the NIS publications listed in 4, above, what are the major shortcomings you have found in the NIS? (Please relate these to your own needs, considering adequacy of coverage, reliability of content, currency, length and detail of presentation, and security classification.)

Obsolescence (sp?), though I don't see how this can be avoided. As I see it, the NIS performs the great service of establishing a checklist toward which USG intelligence and research agencies direct their efforts. The publication is valuable as a source -- but even more basic is the fact that some agency has gotten organized to obtain each type of information, and may be able to up-date the published NIS report as needed.

(answer may be continued on the reverse)

10. What specific suggestions can you make for improving the content (including graphics), coverage, organization, and format of NIS units?

The loose-leaf format for biographies has been a great improvement -- whether or not you still label it NIS. It might be useful to study possibilities of applying the same format to other chapters.

(answer may be continued on the reverse)

Carl Nelson

Signature (optional)

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